



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,798	06/05/2001	Ashvinkumar J. Sanghvi	MS1-693US	5525
22801	7590	11/05/2003	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2126	5
DATE MAILED: 11/05/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/875,798

Applicant(s)

SANGHVI ET AL.

Examiner

Mohammad A Siddiqi

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Natarajan et al. (6584502) (hereinafter Natarajan).

3. As per claims 1 and 18, Natarajan discloses a method comprising:
assigning (figure 2, element 260, 202) a plurality of devices to a group(figure 5C, element 254, col 4, lines 49-54);
assigning (figure 2, element 260, 202) at least one event-handling policy (figure 2 element 254) to the group(figure 5C, element 254, col 14, lines 51-52), wherein the assigned policy is associated with each of the plurality of devices in the group(figure 2, element 254, col 14, lines 33-50);
and

evaluating a current state of each device (figure 17, element 1718) before the assigned policy (figure 17, element 1728) is applied to the device (figure 17, col 31, lines 35-67).

4. As per claim 2, Natarajan discloses evaluating a current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member of the group (col 14, lines 33-50, it is implied in the tree structure children have only one parent) .

5. As per claim 3, Natarajan discloses evaluating a current state of each device (figure 17, element 1718) includes:

determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group (figure 5C, element 254, col 14, lines 5-20) ; and

applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device is currently a member of the group (col 14, lines 33-35).

6. As per claims 4 and 12, Natarajan discloses each device is assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group (col 14 , lines 51-56).

7. As per claims 5 and 19, Natarajan discloses a particular device is

assigned to multiple groups(col 14, lines 33-50).

8. As per claims 6 and 13, Natarajan discloses the event-handling (figure 2 , element 254) policy defines how the device is configured(col 8 , lines 27-38).

9. As per claims 7, 14 and 20, Natarajan discloses the event-handling (figure 2, element 254) policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device(col 10, lines 40-50).

10. As per claim 8, Natarajan discloses the method is implemented by a management module (col 19, lines 1-15).

11. As per claim 9, Natarajan discloses One or more computer-readable memories (figure 5A, element 63, 65, col 12, lines 46-51) containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform(col 12, lines 46-59).

12. As per claim 10, Natarajan discloses an apparatus comprising:
a group of devices having an associated event-handling policy (figure 5C, element 254);

an event log configured to store event data (figure 2, element 252, col 13, lines 56-57); and

a management module coupled to the group of devices and the event log (figure 2, element 260,262,252, col 19, lines 1-16), wherein a current state of each device in the group of devices is evaluated by the management module before the event-handling policy is applied to the device (figure 6 and 7, col 19, 1-16, col 14, lines 34-50).

13. As per claim 11, Natarajan discloses a plurality of groups of devices are coupled to the management module (figure 2, element 254,260, col 19, lines 1-19).

14. As per claim 15, Natarajan discloses the apparatus is part of an enterprise computing system (figure 2, see abstract) .

15. As per claim 16, Natarajan discloses the management module receives event data generated by a plurality of event providers (figure 2, element 260, 262, 254, 270, col 19 , lines 1-19).

16. As per claim 17, Natarajan discloses the management module determines whether a particular device is currently a member of the group

before the event-handling policy is applied to the device(col 19 , lines 1 -47, it is implied during the registration process).

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent 6058416 to Mukherjee et al.

U.S. Patent 6275232 to Cataudella et al.

U.S. Patent 6154849 to Xia et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A Siddiqi whose telephone number is (703) 305-0353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703)305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Application/Control Number: 09/875,798
Art Unit: 2126

Page 7

MAS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JF', is written above the official stamp.

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100